

REMARKS

Claims 51, 56, and 60 are currently being examined, none of which have been amended. Claims 50, 52, 58, and 59 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. No new claims have been added. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 51, 56, and 60 have been allowed.

Claims 50, 52, 58, and 59 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by **Knowles**. Applicants have canceled claims 50, 52, 58, and 59 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, claims 51, 56, and 60 are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/227,529**
Response to Office Action dated December 18, 2003

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Darren R. Crew

Darren R. Crew
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,806
for William L. Brooks
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,129

DRC/mla

Atty. Docket No. **960569C**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time